

J. Carlton Courter, III Commissioner

## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

## Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Animal Industry Services

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April 5, 2001

TO: ALL STATE VETERINARIANS

SUBJECT: Ban on Prohibited Entry of Equine from Known Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Countries is Rescinded; Restricted Entry of Dogs Continues

Effective immediately, The Commonwealth of Virginia is lifting its ban on the entry of equine (e.g., horses, ponies, zebras, etc.) originating (imported) from known FMD countries as designed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in lieu of the new pre-embarkation requirements set by the USDA. These new USDA requirements are more effective in reducing the risk of introducing FMD and yet allow less restrictive international movement of equine.

Because the USDA did not place any pre-embarkation requirements (e.g., quarantine, treatment, veterinary inspection, etc.) on working dogs (e.g., hunting dogs, herding dogs, etc.) from a known FMD country, Virginia will continue to require that a prior entry permit be obtained from the Office of the State Veterinarian. The permit can only be obtained by calling 804-786-2483, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time), Monday through Friday. Within 24 hours after arrival, each such dog will be subjected to a sponge application of, or heavy misting of, a one-to-one vinegar and water solution applied to the entire body following bathing at the premises of destination. Also, every such dog will be quarantined to the premises of destination for a minimum of ten (10) days and shall have no contact with or exposure to cloven-hoofed animals (cows, sheep, goats, etc.) during the quarantine period.

This preventive procedure has been initiated in order to protect the livestock industry of Virginia from a possible incursion of FMD. This procedure is adopted as an emergency measure and shall be effective until it is determined that FMD is no longer a threat to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This Proclamation supersedes the Proclamation dated March 23, 2001.

Done this 5th day of April 2001.

William M. Sims, Jr., DVM, MS

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**State Veterinarian**